

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest.

I am deeply concerned that the responsibilities of television and radio in a free and democratic society are misunderstood, even by the FCC. Without truly independent local stations we, the electorate, are at risk of being shut off from factual information. The consolidation of media power in the hands of a few is a real danger to our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.